

FROME RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

FOR THE YEAR 1895.

AREA—49,517 Acres.

POPULATION—(estimated to 1895) 13,944.

OCCUPATION—Agriculture and Coal Mining.

						1895.		1894.		1893.
Birth-rate	per	1,000	living	...	...	24·3	...	21·4	...	28·5
Death-rate	"	"	"	...	...	13·1	...	12·6	...	13·5
Zymotic-rate	"	"	"	..	...	·08	...	·5	...	·7
Infant Mortality	"	"	births	...	...	74	...	70	...	68·5

Total Births—340 ; an increase of 42 on last year.

Total Deaths—184 ; " " 6 " of these

25 died under 1 year of age.

18 " between 1 year and 5 years of age.

8 " " 5 years and 15 years of age.

6 " " 15 " 25 "

45 " " 25 " 65 "

82 " over 65 years of age.

The Death-rate is about the same as in former years.

The Causes of Death were as follows :—

Membranous Croup	...	1	Bronchitis and Pneumonia	...	27
Whooping Cough	...	1	Heart Disease	...	23
Diarrhoea, etc.	...	2	Injuries	...	7
Phthisis	...	8	Other Causes	...	115

Infectious Diseases Notified, 36 (as compared with 49 last year and 211 in 1893) as follows :—

Scarlatina	...	1	Typhoid Fever	...	1
Diphtheria	...	6	Continued Fever	...	1
Membranous Croup	...	2	Erysipelas	...	25

Of the above only one case (Membranous Croup) proved fatal.

There are again a large number of cases of Erysipelas notified, but the majority of these are very slight. Of the remaining Notifiable Diseases only 11 cases have occurred. This in so large an area is very satisfactory, and with the general improvement in Sanitation and Water Supply, many of these Diseases should become conspicuous by their continued absence.

An outbreak of *Measles* occurred in Chantry in April, and necessitated the closing of the Village School.

Numerous samples of *Water* have been submitted for examination during the year. These have been duly reported on, and where necessary, steps have at once been taken to remedy defects.

Water Supply.—RODDEN.—Certain extensions have been made during the year.

COLEFORD.—The scheme approved last year has been duly carried out, and the supply is laid on through the Village and is much appreciated by the inhabitants. Some little difficulty has arisen from time to time owing to the reluctance of Landlords to close unsafe wells and lay the supply on to the cottages.

Sewerage.—Nothing of any importance has been done under this heading.

Infectious Hospital.—There is none in the District.

The Infectious Diseases Notification Act has been in force since March, 1890, and certainly works well, and greatly to the convenience of the Medical Officer of Health, and the advantage of the Public.

Disinfecting Machine.—There is none. Disinfectants are supplied and fumigation carried out by the Medical Officer of Health and the Inspectors of Nuisances.

Dairies, Cow-sheds, etc., are occasionally inspected, and where necessary, reported upon.

Inspectors of Nuisances.—There are two, each with a separate District. Both furnish reports.

Housing of the Working Classes.—There have been few complaints, and nothing at all serious has arisen under this head.

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FROME, *January* 1896.

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PHONE :

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